examined and listed, and those which promise a reasonable prospect of success will be included in our programme.

20. Fina'ly we do not wish altogether to ignore the towns, and among our plans for immediate development after the war are water supply and drainage schemes for the three major towns in the State, none of which is really properly served in this respect at present. I do not pretend that this is a complete catalogue of all possible plans of reconstruction; but I hope that I have said enough to convince Hon'ble Members that I am alive to the need for development in different directions. I am also alive to the need for associating members of this House with the Government's plans for reconstruction. Whether this can best be done by periodical reports to the House which will give opportunity for a full-dress debate on the subject, or whether it would be better to appoint a few representative members of the House to a Reconstruction Committee whose proceedings should be placed on the table of the House, or whether there are other better methods of establishing contact between the Government and members of this House regarding this matter—these questions are still under consideration. I believe that, in a matter of such grave importance as this planning for the whole future development of the State, all sections of the population should have the opportunity to inform themselves of what is being done and to make suggestions or criticisms.

21. But Hon'ble Members will realise that these are matters for the future. For the moment, un il the war comes to an end, our principal duty is to maintain our war activities at their highest pitch. I am grateful for all that Hon'ble Members of this House are doing in this direction, and I would only ask them to maintain these activities until the war ends. We still have to meet calls for recruits from the fighting services, from the State Forces, from labour units and from technicians, and these demands must be met in full. There is still need to carry on propaganda regarding the course of the war, regarding the continued need for war work, the need for men and the need for supplies. The National War Front has in the past played a great part in steadying and strengthening the morale of the population. That work is still as necessary as it has ever been. Now that the war is going well there is perhaps the danger that people will slacken their efforts thinking that the need for exertion is over. That is the road, if not to defeat, certainly to a prolongation of the war. It is only by maintaining our war activities at the highest pitch that we can expect the war to be over soon. The National War Front can do much to spread this spirit among the people. And I must say a word about the recently formed Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Board, the object of which is to look after the families of men away on active service and to look after the interests of the men themselves. This Board has a large part to play in fostering morale and encouraging recruitment, for by letting everybody see that the soldier or sailor or airmen and his family are being looked after by an active and vigorous Board, more men will be induced to come forward as recruits. I appeal to everyone who is engaged in any form of war work to maintain his efforts and to increase them, for the nearer we come to victory the greater is the need for concentration of effort.

22. I should to like to acknowledge on behalf of the State Government the great help which the Government has received in these difficult times from the Resident for the Madras States and through him from the Government of India. The Resident has been unsparing in his attempts to secure for the State supplies of things of which we are short and to represent our difficulties to the Government of India. I also wish to express my satisfaction at the cordial relations which continue to exist between this State and its next-door neighbours, Madras and Travancore. The relations have been maintained on a friendly footing throughout the past year and it is obviously for the benefit of all concerned that these good relations should continue. Certainly this Government will do everything in its power to maintain the existing friendly relations.

23. Now it only remains for me to say that the deliberations of this House in this coming session are fraught with great possibilities for the benefit of the people of the State. I am sure that Hon'ble Members will take full advantage of these possibilities and so conduct the business of the House that it may redound to the credit and satisfaction of His Highness the Maharaja and of all his subjects.

## PANEL OF CHAIRMAN—ANNOUNCEMENT OF

**Mr. President:** I now have to announce that I have appointed to the Panel of Chairmen Mr. P. P. Devassy and Khan Sahib Ismail Hajee Essa Sait.

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